

WHEAT GROWS WEAKER AND IS UNSETTLED

Crop Prospects Are Improved by Lower Temperature and Moderate Rainfall--Weather Favorable and Demand Inactive.

New York, April 3.—There was much irregularity in domestic wheat markets early in the week, prices fluctuating in a feverish and erratic fashion, owing largely to conflicting influences. The most radical changes were in the distant or new crop contracts, and notably September, which was decidedly weaker as compared with the nearby deliveries, especially May, this being decidedly strong at times, owing to the insignificant supply here, particularly of contract grades. Much of the time the tendency was downward and in the remote deliveries owing to larger offerings, prompted by reports of brighter prospects in the West. It was said that the crop outlook had been improved by light or moderate rainfalls, but more especially in Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri. Unfortunately there were only light and scattered showers in Kansas, where moisture was most urgently needed.

Need of More Rain.
It is feared that the crop in that State will be reduced. Some authorities estimate that unless it rains heavily within a few days the crop in Kansas can scarcely exceed 65,000,000 bushels, against 85,000,000 harvested last year. However, many conservative merchants are incredulous on this point, as they believe that such early estimates are not to be depended upon, as it usually happens that the plant makes good progress later, if the weather becomes favorable.

Selling was also prompted by a decidedly lower barometer, nearly all over winter wheat territory, with materially lower temperature, which was highly welcome, as the remarkably unseasonable heat was accentuating the injury by drought.

The downward tendency was checked, partly by slightly better cables from Western Europe and particularly from Liverpool, which market was influenced by a further reduction in Argentina, mated exportable surplus placed at only 35,000,000 bushels, which, added to the 25,000,000 already shipped, makes the total for the year only 61,000,000 bushels, against 65,000,000, the lowest previous estimate, and 56,000,000 exported in 1909.

Crops Estimates and Prices.
About the middle of the week there was a temporary recovery, as sellers for the decline were nervous and anxious to cover, owing partly to the disappointing rainfall, and particularly in Kansas where moisture is most urgently needed. On the whole, however, crop reports have been rather less dismal, although according to one observer

COTTON MARKET NOW DEPENDS ON WEATHER

New Orleans, La., April 3.—With the cotton market once more a two-sided affair, this week will probably show more activity in the future ring. For a long time the bulls had their own way, and were able to throttle bearish enterprise and to threaten higher prices because of the unbroken drought in Texas and the Western cotton belt generally. The general and heavy rain in the Southern cotton situation has taken on a most decided change, and both sides seem to have an equal chance in their operations.

If the weather remains favorable, the bears will once more commence to talk about possibilities of a 14,000,000 or even a 15,000,000 bale crop, just as in the recent past the bulls have been gloomily predicting that with not enough moisture in the soil there was a chance for another 16,000,000 bale yield, such as was seen in the last season. It is yet too early in the spring to justify either of these extreme estimates. Crop reports will assume considerable importance this week from the fact that planting is now in full swing in Texas, will be in progress in Louisiana, and will commence quite generally in Alabama and Mississippi. From now on it will be a weather market, and the cotton market will be a weather market. Some time to come the weather in Texas will command most attention because of the dispute now on as to whether the rains of last week were a complete cure for the drought that had ruled since the middle of the year. The effects of the drought have been conquered, but bulls claim that the rains came too late to put "season" in the cotton. Only the best known brands. Printed goods sell steadily for export, but the domestic market is quiet. On low-priced dress gingham sales are steady in Southern sections of the country. Fall River sold 50,000 pieces of print cloths for the week of 25,000 were sold, and all orders. All print cloth mills are sold up for 50 per cent. of the output for April. Drills and sheeps rule quiet, with prices very low.

Market Touches Bottom.
New York, April 3.—The cotton goods market appears to have touched bottom during the week. Pepperell wide sheetings were reduced to a basis of 25 cents for 10-4 goods, and after accumulations were sold, they were advanced to 9-18 cents. In other quarters, where low prices were named to move out stocks, more steadiness is shown.

Settlement of Wage Difficulties.
The settlement of wage difficulties on railroads is having a sentimental effect in increasing confidence, while the widespread curtailment of production is acting powerfully in shortening the supply of merchandise. This curtailment is being forced by the unusually high price of raw material and the failure of prices for finished merchandise to respond to a level of costs of manufacture.

Will Improve Bond.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Lynchburg, Va., April 3.—The State Highway Commission is preparing plans for the improvement of the road leading from the city through Fairview Heights. The city will improve Seventeenth Street and Campbell Avenue to the Southern Railway line, where that company will macadam under its tracks. The hill beyond the railway is to be paved with stone, and at the end of this the district will improve a mile and a half of the county road.

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BROOKLYN
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MONDAY AND TUESDAY,
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Game called at 4 P. M.
Admission, 25c; grandstand, 15c.

ACADEMY---Thursday
DAVID ARTHUR PRESENTS
MARIE CAHILL
in Her Latest Success.
THE BOYS AND BETTY
PRICES: 50c. to \$1.50.
ACADEMY---To-Morrow and Wed.
MATINEE WEDNESDAY.
GEORGE M. COHAN'S
45 Minutes From Broadway
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BIJOU---All Week
GEO. SIDNEY
IN
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Next Week: Ward and Yokes in "The Promoters."

Advertising Plans
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Richmond, Va.
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Lancaster beginning on the 7th instant, when the suit of the heirs of the late Andrew Jackson Hall against C. S. Thomas, merchant at Weems, will be tried.

The continued dry weather is making the roads dusty and greatly interfering with farming and trucking operations.

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Incorporated as a Stock Company in 1871.

Issues the Most Liberal Forms of Life and Endowment Policies from \$1,000.00 to \$25,000.00.

With Premiums Payable Annually, Semi-Annually or Quarterly.

All Policies are Non-participating.

Insurance in force Dec. 31, 1909..... \$68,337,613 00
Assets Dec. 31, 1909..... 5,372,691 99
Capital and Surplus Dec. 31, 1909..... 1,060,286 67

JOHN G. WALKER, President.

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NATIONAL STATE BANK,
OF RICHMOND, VA.

FOR THE SAFEKEEPING OF YOUR TREASURES WILL COST YOU BUT A TRIFLE.

CAN YOU AFFORD TO TAKE THE RISK OF GUARDING YOUR OWN TREASURES?
A SAFE DEPOSIT BOX IN THE STRONG VAULT OF THE

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JAS. N. BOYD, Vice-Pres. JNO. M. MILLER, Jr., Vice-Pres.
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Capital, \$200,000.00 Surplus, \$50,000.00

DEPOSITORY FOR THE CITY OF RICHMOND AND STATE OF VIRGINIA.

This strong, progressive bank solicits the accounts of all classes, large or small. Business, personal and accounts of corporations receive our careful attention.

Acts as Trustee in Mortgages, Executor, Guardian, Receiver. Registers of Stocks and Bonds.

Savings deposits a specialty. 3 per cent. interest paid, compounded semi-annually.

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Edward Rogers, Vice-President.
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Solicits accounts of farmers, merchants, firms and individuals.
4 Per Cent. Paid On Time Savings Accounts.

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TRAVELERS' CHEQUES
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are good in every quarter of the globe. Accepted at full face value by Banks, Hotels, Railroads, Steamship Companies and others who cater to travelers. Self-identifying; safer than money; more convenient than drafts.

Issued in four denominations by this bank: \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100.

Try them next trip.

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ELEVENTH AND CLAY STS.
Open daily from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.
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TWELFTH AND CLAY STREETS.
OPEN 9 A. M. TO 5 P. M.
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